



# NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

**TODD P. GRAVES**

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**DECEMBER 13, 2002**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **COLUMBIA MAN INDICTED FOR THREATS AGAINST HOSPITAL, FIREARMS VIOLATION**

**JEFFERSON CITY, Mo.** – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced today that a Columbia man has been indicted by a federal grand jury today for making threats against the Harry S. Truman Memorial Veterans Hospital in Columbia, and for federal firearms violations.

**Richard S. Heideman**, 45, of Columbia, Mo., was charged in a two-count indictment returned by a federal grand jury meeting in Jefferson City on December 11, 2002.

Count One of the federal indictment alleges that, on November 19, 2002, **Heideman** made telephone threats to unlawfully damage and destroy a building and other property located at the Harry S. Truman Memorial Veterans' Hospital in Columbia, Mo., by means of an explosive.

Count Two of the federal indictment alleges that **Heideman** was in possession of eight boxes, containing 50 rounds each, of .22 long rifle ammunition on November 21, 2002. Possession of ammunition at that time would have been illegal, Graves explained, due to **Heideman's** 1994 criminal felony conviction as a persistent offender of driving while intoxicated in Boone County, Mo.

Graves cautioned that the charges contained in the indictment are simply accusations, and not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charges must be presented to a federal trial jury, whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Jim Lynn. It was investigated by the Veterans Administration Police Department, the Columbia, Mo., Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms.

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This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at  
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